

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In an apparatus for determining the actual status  
of a piezoelectric sensor in a medical implant,  
5 electrical charges generated in the sensor, in response  
to changes in acceleration and/or gravitational force or  
other loads acting on the sensor, are continuously  
detected and the charges are then removed from the  
sensor, thereby maintaining the voltage across the sensor  
10 at a substantial constant zero level. The detected  
charges, both negative and positive, are integrated,  
thereby providing a resulting integrated signal  
representing the actual status of the sensor. The  
integrated signal is then evaluated for determining the  
15 physical activity and/or the posture of a patient in whom  
the medical implant is implanted.